

**21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 2023—10am**



Grace Lutheran Church

521 Providence Road
Chesapeake, VA 23325
757-420-4704

www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/she)

Our Mission Statement:

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal.
Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal.
Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.
+ Please stand as you are able.

+ Gathering +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

"I Can Only Imagine" *arr. by Melody Bober*

+ Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God, **you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

+ Gathering Song

“Better Is One Day”

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O lord Almighty. For my soul longs and even faints for You. For here my heart is satisfied within your presence. I sing beneath the shadow of your wings.

Refrain: Better is one day in your courts, better is one day in Your House, better is one day in Your courts, than thousands elsewhere. Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house, better is one day in your courts, than thousands elsewhere, than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: To see Your beauty, to find you in the place your glory dwells. One thing I ask and I would seek: To see your beauty to find you in the place your glory dwells.

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the living God. Your spirit's water to my soul. I've tasted and I've seen, come once again to me, I will draw near to You, I will draw near to You, to You.

Better is one day, better is one day, better is one day than thousands elsewhere. Better is one day, better is one day, better is one day than thousands elsewhere.

Matt Redman © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

+ Greeting

ELW p.165

+ Prayer of the Day

ELW p.50

+Word+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99 ELW #99

+ Gospel Acclamation ELW p.171

+ Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22

Young at Heart Message & Sermon The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

+ Song of the Day "Who Am I"

Who am I, that the Lord of all the earth would care to know my name,
would care to feel my hurt?

Who am I that the Bright and Morning Star would choose to light the way
for my ever wand'ring heart?

Not because of who I am, but because of what You've done.
Not because of what I've done, but because of who You are.

I am a flower quickly fading, here today and gone tomorrow;
A wave tossed in the ocean, a vapor in the wind.
Still You hear me when I'm calling. Lord, You catch me when I'm falling.
And You've told me who I am: I am Yours. I am yours.

Who am I, that the eyes that see my sin would look on me with love and
watch me rise again?

Who am I, that the voice that calmed the sea would call out through the
rain and calm the storm in me?

Mark Hall © 2003 Be Essential Songs; My Refuge Music

+ Apostles' Creed ELW p.105

+ Prayers of Intercession God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

+ Peace

+Meal+

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able!

Electronic donations can be made at

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/475611.



+ Offering Prayer

+ Great Thanksgiving

ELW p.172

+ Proper Preface

+ Sanctus

ELW p.173

+ Thanksgiving at the Table

+ Lord's Prayer

ELW p.173

+ Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei

ELW p.174

Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace

When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.

Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors.

If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.

Distribution Song

ELW #496

+ Sending +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Announcements

+ Sending Song

“Great Are You Lord

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness. You give hope.
You restore ev'ry heart that is broken. And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our
praise. It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

And all the earth will shout Your praise. Our hearts will cry, these bones will
sing, “Great are You, Lord!”

David Leonard, Jason Ingram, & Leslie Jordan © 2012 Open Hands Music

+ Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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